

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 DLOS-09 OES-07 CIAE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 EB-08 OMB-01  
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R 281700Z FEB 78  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9655  
INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA  
AMEMBASSY QUITO  
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO  
DIA WASHDC  
USCINCSO J2 QUARRY HTS CZ

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PBOR, PE, CI, BL  
SUBJECT: BANZER GOVERNMENT DEFENDS SEA-OUTLET DIPLOMACY

1. SUMMARY: IN A STATEMENT TO THE PRESS ON FEBRUARY 14, FOREIGN MINISTER ADRIAZOLA MOUNTED A STOUT DEFENSE OF THE BANZER GOVERNMENT'S SEA-OUTLET DIPLOMACY. HE HIGHLIGHTED THE GOVERNMENT'S SUCCESS IN WINNING INTERNATIONAL SYMPATHY FOR BOLIVIA'S LANDLOCKED PLIGHT, AND BLASTED THOSE ENGAGED IN "DESTRUCTIVE CRITICISM" OF ITS DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS. ADRIAZOLA ASSIGNED PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR LACK OF PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS TO CHILE, BUT ALSO CRITICIZED PERU FOR INTRODUCING COMPLICATING ELEMENTS IN ITS COUNTER-PROPOSAL OF NOVEMBER 1976. THE DECLARATION WAS NOT AIMED AT STIMULATING THE NEGOTIATIONS, BUT WAS DESIGNED INSTEAD FOR INTERNAL CONSUMPTION. WHILE

IT WILL NOT STILL BANZER'S CRITICS, IT DOES PUT FORTH THE GOVERNMENT'S SIDE OF WHAT IS BOUND TO BECOME AN INCREASINGLY HEATED ISSUE DURING  
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THE BOLIVIAN ELECTION CAMPAIGN. END SUMMARY.

2. ON FEBRUARY 14, FOREIGN MINISTER ADRIAZOLA TOOK OCCASION OF THE NINETY-NINTH ANNIVERSARY OF CHILE'S OCCUPATION OF ANTOFAGASTA TO DELIVER TO THE PRESS A DECLARATION DEFENDING THE BANZER GOVERNMENT'S DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TO OBTAIN A SOVEREIGN CORRIDOR TO THE SEA. (TEXT OF DECLARATION POUCHED). ADRIAZOLA CALLED

ATTENTION TO BOLIVIA'S "VAST INTERNATIONAL CRUSADE" TO ACQUAINT THE WORLD WITH THE PROBLEMS OF ITS GEOGRAPHICAL ENCLOSURE, AND UNDERSCORED THE "SUCSESSES" IN THAT REGARD OBTAINED AT THE OAS MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE IN ATLANTA IN 1974, AT THE AYACUCHO CONFERENCE LATER THAT SAME YEAR, AND IN THE OAS IN 1975. ADRIAZOLA BLASTED THOSE ENGAGED IN "DESTRUCTIVE CRITICISM" OF THE BOLIVIAN EFFORTS, ASKING REHTORICALLY, "WHO AMONG THE CRITICS HAS ACCOMPLISHED MORE FOR BOLIVIA'S MARITIME CAUSE THAN THE CURRENT GOVERNMENT?"

3. ADRIAZOLA LAID PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR LACK IN PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS TO CHILE, WHICH, HE SAID, HAD MADE NO EFFORT TO RESPOND CONSTRUCTIVELY TO THE PERUVIAN COUNTER-PROPOSAL OF NOVEMBER 1976. HE ALSO CRITICIZED PERU, HOWEVER, FOR INTRODUCING ELEMENTS IN ITS COUNTER-PROPOSAL WHICH ARE NOT CONDUCIVE TO BOLIVIA'S INTERESTS IN OBTAINING A CORRIDOR (SPECIFICALLY, PERU'S DEMAND FOR AN INTERNATIONAL COASTAL ZONE EXTENDING FROM ITS BORDER TO ARICA).

4. REVIEWING THE NEGOTIATIONS TO DATE, ADRIAZOLA EMPHASIZED THAT IN ITS INITIAL PROPOSAL TO CHILE ON AUGUST 26, 1975, THE BOLIVIAN GOVERNMENT: (1) DID NOT DEFINE A SOUTHERN LIMIT TO THE CORRIDOR; (2) SOUGHT, IN ADDITION TO A PORT AREA NEAR ARICA, A SOVEREIGN ENCLAVE ON THE COAST NEAR ANTOFOGASTA, IQUIQUE OR PISAGUA; (3) OFFERED, IN EXCHANGE, TO CONSIDER ONLY SUCH COMPENSATION ("APORTES") AS MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE; AND (4) MADE NO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONCESSIONS ON THE LAUCA RIVER, LEAVING INSTEAD THAT ISSUE "PENDING".

5. ADRIAZOLA CONTINUED THAT THE CHILEAN RESPONSE OF DECEMBER 19, 1975 (WHICH INTRODUCED THE CONDITION OF TERRITORIAL EXCHANGE) COMPLICATED THE NEGOTIATIONS, BUT MAINTAINED THAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN "UNPATRIOTIC" FOR THE BOLIVIAN GOVERNMENT TO HAVE TURNED BACK AT THE FIRST OBSTACLE. THEREFORE, ACCORDING TO ADRIAZOLA, THE CHILEAN CONDITIONS WERE PUT ON THE TABLE, WHERE THEY BECAME PART OF THE NEGOTIATING FRAMEWORK.

6. ADRIAZOLA SUMMED UP BOLIVIA'S POSITION BY RESTATING BANZER'S "HISTORIC MESSAGE" OF DECEMBER 24, 1976, WHICH MADE THESE POINTS:  
--CHILE SHOULD WITHDRAW ITS DEMAND FOR TERRITORIAL COMPENSATION.  
--PERU SHOULD MODIFY ITS DEMANDS FOR A ZONE OF SHARED SOVEREIGNTY.  
--BOLIVIA, IN EXCHANGE, WOULD BE PREPARED TO OFFER NATURAL RESOURCES TO ENCOURAGE DEVELOPMENT IN THE ZONE WHICH WOULD BENEFIT ALL THREE COUNTRIES.

7. COMMENT: ADRIAZOLA'S DECLARATION WAS NOT DESIGNED TO STIMULATE MOVEMENT IN THE NEGOTIATIONS, BUT RATHER WAS DRAWN

UP PRIMARILY FOR INTERNAL CONSUMPTION. THE BANZER REGIME'S SEA-OUTLET DIPLOMACY, ALWAYS A SOURCE OF CONTROVERSY, IN RECENT WEEKS HAS COME UNDER INCREASING FIRE, AND IS BOUND TO BECOME A HOT CAMPAIGN ISSUE AS THE JULY 9 ELECTIONS DRAW NEAR. BANZER'S CRITICS INSIST THAT BOLIVIA OBTAINED NOTHING IN RETURN FOR RE-ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH CHILE (SEVERED IN 1962 OVER CHILE'S DIVERSION OF THE LAUCA RIVER) AND THAT BANZER, NEGOTIATING BEHIND THE PEOPLE'S BACK, HAD BEEN MANEUVERING TO SURRENDER BOLIVIAN TERRITORY FOR AN INADEQUATE STRIP OF COAST. WHILE ADRIAZOLA'S COMMENTS WILL NOT STILL THE CRITICS, THEY AT LEAST SERVE TO PUT FORTH THE GOVERNMENT'S SIDE OF THE ISSUE IN COMPREHENSIVE FORM.

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## Message Attributes

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